



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Fiscal Year 2015 BJA Visiting Fellows Program

Presented by the Bureau of Justice Assistance



Webinar Logistics

- All phone lines are currently in mute mode.
- If you are having problems connecting to WebEx, please type in the chat box and we will address them that way.
- If you have a question on the solicitation or for one of our speakers, please type them into the chat box. We will be taking all questions at the end of the presentation.



Presentation Agenda:

- Welcome from Kristen Mahoney, BJA Deputy Director
- Overview of Fellows Program
- Description of Eligibility
- Fellows Activities and Deliverables
- Award Details and Budget Information
- Solicitation Attachments
- Grants.gov
- Priority Topic Areas Presentations
- Past and Current Fellows Experiences
- Moderated Q&A



Overview of the BJA Fellows Program

- The Fellows Program is designed to address emerging issues and build capacity to improve the administration of criminal justice through leveraging state, local and tribal subject matter experts.
- Fellows develop strategies, tools and policies in collaboration with BJA staff for the benefit of the criminal justice field.
- Fellows work in the Policy Office of BJA within one of the designated units: Law Enforcement and Adjudication, Corrections and Reentry, Justice Information Sharing and Strategic Initiatives.



Overview of BJA Fellows Program

- Fellows Program is funded from 12-18 months.
- 6-12 months onsite residency program at the BJA Washington, DC Office. At least 1,100 hours of residency must be on site.
- Applicants should:
 - Have significant work and academic experience in a criminal justice policy, practice or research setting in the area for which they are applying.
 - Support the use of data and research to inform the development of important strategies.



Overview of BJA Fellows Program

- Five Priority Topic Areas:
 - Justice Information Sharing, Analysis, and Crime Cyber Fellow
 - Law Enforcement Human Trafficking Fellow
 - Reentry and Corrections Second Chance Act Fellow
 - Correction Fellow: Reforming Corrections Policies and Practices to Reduce Recidivism and Enhance Outcomes
 - Strategic Initiatives Fellow, Implementation Fidelity
- Applications are Due April 2, 2015 by 11:59 pm eastern time.



Eligibility

- Eligible applicants are limited to individuals, as well as state, tribal, or local government, organizations, or academic institutions seeking to provide federal-level experience for one of its staff members.
- Eligible applicants for the Second Chance Act Fellow position are limited to individuals who have formerly been incarcerated.
- **Important:** Organizations seeking to place their employee as a Fellow under this program **will not** have programmatic oversight of the staff person for those activities conducted as part of the fellowship. For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.



Fellows Activities:

- Assist BJA with activities designed to assess the technical assistance, training, and capacity building needs in the priority area.
- Assume lead responsibility for reviewing, updating, and maintaining any relevant BJA web site pages, in coordination with BJA staff.
- Assess current BJA training and technical assistance resources in the priority area to determine if the products should be updated to be relevant to the field.
- Assist BJA staff with the review and analysis of semi-annual performance measurement data submitted to BJA by grantees, if any, in the assigned priority area through OJP's Grants Management System (GMS) progress reports module, the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT), and the TTA Reporting Portal. The Fellow will highlight inconsistencies between the performance data and the narrative reports and work with BJA staff and grantee organizations to reconcile the data.



Fellows Activities:

- Work with BJA staff to plan and implement monthly technical assistance conference calls with grantees on projects in assigned priority areas, including identifying potential call topics and speakers.
- At the request of BJA management, participate in internal and external stakeholder meetings, forums, conferences, and international briefings for the purpose of presenting information on BJA efforts to address issues in the priority area and corresponding gaps in services and capacity building needs of the field.
- Prepare detailed reports, speeches, and articles at the request of OJP and BJA management.



Fellows Activities:

- Develop written responses to various requests for information, including public inquiries seeking information on BJA's efforts in the priority area.
- Participate in professional development and training activities in consultation with BJA management to enhance expertise related to the priority area.
- Travel to support the execution of the above activities.
- Other duties as assigned to support the implementation of the fellowship.



Fellows Deliverables:

- Outreach to BJA stakeholders to coordinate development of projects, such as interviews or focus groups.
- Creation of reports, toolkits and training curricula, applied research tools, and other creative learning strategies.
- Translating research and evidence into programmatic and policy implications for practitioners.
- Development significant articles or publications on topics relevant to BJA's mission.



Fellows Deliverables:

- Provision of technical subject-matter training and assistance to the BJA staff, especially their Policy team.
- Collaboration to facilitate creation of recommended strategies and enhancements to work in the specific priority issue area (identified below).
- Training of BJA stakeholders.



Award Details:

- Up to 5 awards will be made in FY15
- Approximately \$270,000 an award
- 18 month award period
- Award period begins after October 1, 2015 and ends before March 31, 2017
- Supplemental funding may be available in future years



Budget Information:

- Budgets may include salary and expenses, housing expenses, travel, and other limited administrative expenses.
- **BJA will not fund salary (or costs) for any persons other than the person to be placed in the fellowship, with the following exception:** BJA will fund small costs for a support staff person or contractor to perform support functions in completing research, analysis, meeting support, or document development insofar as such is a core need to accomplish the goals of the fellowship.
- All budget items must be clearly explained and tied to the proposed fellows activities.



Attachments

- Applications must include:
 - Project Abstract
 - Program Narrative
 - Budget and Budget Narrative
 - Resume (demonstrating 5 years experience)
 - High level time/task plan



Grants.gov

- Applicants must register in, and submit applications through Grants.gov.
- Find complete instructions on how to register and submit an application at <http://www.grants.gov/>.
- Applicants that experience technical difficulties during this process should call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at **800-518-4726** or **606-545-5035**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays.
- Every applicant needs a DUNS number
 - Call Dun and Bradstreet at 866-705-5711 to obtain a DUNS number or apply online at <http://www.dnb.com/>.



Priority Areas: Justice Information Sharing, Analysis, and Cyber Crimes Fellow:

- This fellowship will focus on the use of justice information sharing and data analytics in the identification and reduction of crime, examining specifically crimes committed using high tech means involving network intrusions, infrastructure protection, investigations, awareness, and prevention.
- The ideal candidate will have a strong technical background with an emphasis on data analysis, as well as a working knowledge of electronic communication methods, storage of electronic data, methods for securing communication and data, methods for reporting electronic based crimes, investigation techniques, and supporting effective prosecutions.
- Responsibilities will include documenting how state law enforcement agencies, major city police departments, intelligence units, and fusion centers handle high tech crime, intelligence, sharing of information, and recommending how demonstrated practices can assist other agencies in identifying, preventing, and reacting to these types of threats.



Priority Areas:

Law Enforcement Human Trafficking Fellow:

- This fellowship will seek to improve and expand the ability of law enforcement and prosecutors nationwide and the BJA-funded human trafficking task forces to utilize innovative, proactive investigative practices, build innovative partnerships and networks, and develop data-driven strategies to improve responses, operations, efficiencies, and decision making in addressing the crime of human trafficking.
- The ideal candidate will have strong experience in human trafficking investigations, prosecutions, collaborative task force operations, victim services, collaboration across justice entities, identifying and collecting data, and an understanding of stakeholder dynamics within communities and criminal justice practice.
- The focus of the fellowship will be on enhancing state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecutorial capacity to address human trafficking through identifying innovative investigatory and prosecutorial practices, documenting successful practices and sharing information.



Priority Area: Reentry and Corrections Second Chance Act Fellow:

- This fellowship will seek to identify and work collaboratively with a Fellow who has substantial expertise as a policy advocate, legal or social services provider, or academic focusing on the area of successful reintegration of people returning home to communities after incarceration.
- Successful applicants will possess significant reentry policy and practice experience, and will have a unique perspective of the justice system having been formerly incarcerated him or herself.
- Potential Fellows are strongly encouraged to propose specific strategies that build upon and improve BJA's investments in the reentry priority area.



Priority Areas:

Corrections Fellow: Reforming Corrections Policies and Practices to Reduce Recidivism and Enhance Outcomes:

- This fellowship seeks to identify and work collaboratively with a Fellow who possesses significant corrections policy and practice experience to enhance current national efforts related to reentry, recidivism reduction, and/or the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).
- Potential Fellows are strongly encouraged to propose specific strategies that build upon and improve BJA's investments in the corrections priority area.



Priority Area: Strategic Initiatives: Implementation Fidelity Fellow:

- This fellowship seeks to support the SIU goals of translating research and evidence informed approaches into BJA policies and programs - including strategies for use by state, local and tribal practitioners.
- Support the fidelity of program implementation; and enhance the coordination and implementation of effective place-based, community-oriented strategies
- Enhance the use of data, research partnerships, strategic planning, and data analysis to enhance practitioners' capacity to effectively develop and implement justice interventions, as well as the provision of training and technical assistance



Priority Area: Strategic Initiatives: Implementation Fidelity Fellow

- A BJA Implementation Fidelity Fellow might focus on:
 - Proposing strategies to incorporate the core components of high-quality implementation into BJA initiatives
 - Building capacity in the field to conduct low-cost, high-quality data collection, analysis, evaluation or research
 - Translating research knowledge in areas of documented need such as prosecution
 - Develop briefing papers, resources, and checklists to promote and support the implementation of programs with fidelity
 - Create strategies to enhance local program design (such as identifying appropriate target populations and services)



Past and Current Fellows Experiences

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Questions?



Contact:

- The FY15 solicitation can be accessed at: <https://www.bja.gov/Funding/15VisitingFellowsSol.pdf>
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Response Center: toll-free at 1-800-851-3420; via TTY at 301-240- 6310 (hearing impaired only); email responsecenter@ncjrs.gov; ax to 301-240-5830; or web chat at <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>.
- The NCJRS Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation closing date.
- For more information about the BJA Fellows Program please visit https://www.bja.gov/ProgramDetails.aspx?Program_ID=112